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the distinction of being clearly an alteration for the better. And, if my countrymen be obstinate and pertinacious, as you seem to apprehend, let them bear the shame of continuing the use of what is cumbrous and unsightly, in preference to what is handsome and well formed. Nothing sacred can be considered as connected with our present characters. They have not the privilege of antiquity. They are not British, but borrowed from the Romans. They have not the sanction of uniform custom, having undergone several changes. Why then retain them, if a real improvement be offered, since they have nothing to recommend them to our attachment?

Your's, &c.

DEWI.

IV. WELSH MSS. IN LONDON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CAMBRO-BRITON.

SIR,—Feeling much anxiety for the success of our literature, but unfortunately possessing little power to forward it, I submit the following ideas to the lovers and promoters of so patriotic and praiseworthy an object as the collection and preservation of Cambrian records. Were I competent to undertake it, I would willingly perform, myself, what I trust will not be thought an unworthy task by those who possess more time than I do, and who have an advantage, which I have not, namely, an extensive knowledge of the language of the country. But to the point—as every paper or work, connected with the ancient history, manners, customs, and battles of our fathers, is daily becoming more interesting, I now submit, that, since in London and its vicinity, particularly in the parishes of Lambeth and Bermondsey, there are residing a number of Welsh families, who may have in their possession documents or books which may throw a light upon the past days of glory;—

When the red dragon never spread his wing
But in the flight to victory : when the men
Of Powys and of Gwynedd, in the bonds
Of patriotism joining, swept to earth
The proudest lance of England, when her halls
Rang with the sound of noble minstrelsy :—

and, as the major part of these people are in humble circumstances, on which account it is more than probable, that such

books or papers may become the prey of some modern Goth, in the shape of a cheesemonger, as mere waste paper, I propose, that those gentlemen, who *really* take an interest in the dignity of "the land of rocks and mountains," do take into consideration the prospect, I have pointed out, of gleaning some farther knowledge among their humble countrymen, and make a tour, if I may so designate it, among them; and I feel satisfied, that their time and trouble would be amply rewarded. Trusting, this will not be deemed an intrusion upon your pages, I request its insertion, and remain

Your obedient Servant,

S. R. JACKSON.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

PALESTINE, a Poem by **HEBER**, and **THE BARD**, by **GRAY**,
Translated into Welsh, by **W. OWEN PUGHE**, to which are
added **MISCELLANEOUS PIECES**.—LONDON, 1822.

THE "PALESTINE" of Mr. Heber is one of the few academical prize-poems, that have survived the occasion, which gave them birth; and the poetical richness of its language, the elevated tone of feeling that pervades it, but, above all, the sublime and interesting associations, that belong to the subject, one of the most felicitous that the muse could have selected, fully entitle it to the distinction it thus enjoys. For this reason a translation of it into the language of the Cymry must, of necessity, prove an acceptable accession to our national literature, and especially when this service is performed by the author of *Coll Gwynva*, who, by every new offering of his pen, has the merit of conferring upon his country a new and essential obligation in this respect. The volume before us contains also, it will be seen, a Translation of Gray's "Bard," and some Miscellaneous Poems, all of them, it is unnecessary to add, of considerable interest; but the two principal poems, from their particular subjects and from the intrinsic excellence of the originals, naturally demand our chief attention; and of the "Bard," it may farther be said, that the historical events, on which it is founded, render its appearance in a Welsh dress peculiarly gratifying.